

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, the applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112 and are not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Accordingly, it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. **If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues, or believes that some or all of the claims are not in condition for allowance, the applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned to schedule a telephone Examiner Interview before any further actions on the merits.**

The applicants will now address each of the issues raised in the outstanding Office Action.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-6, 24 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this ground of rejection in view of the following.

The Examiner contends that in the recitation "and also being the minimum periodic unit of connections from said gate electrodes to said connection terminals within successive pixel rows", it is not clear what the subject of "being the minimum periodic unit" is. As the Examiner surmised from the prosecution history, "N" is meant to be the minimum periodic unit of connections from said gate electrodes to said connection terminals within successive

pixel rows. Claims 1-6 have been amended to more clearly recite this.

The Examiner concludes that this was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to make and use the invention. Specifically, the Examiner argues to that Figure 3 illustrates $N=16$ gate electrode groups, but illustrates gate electrodes 15a and 13a being commonly connected to connection terminal 13. The Examiner then concludes since that the connection from gate electrode 13a to connection terminal 13 is seen as repeating itself at gate electrode 15a, $N=16$ is not the minimum period of this repeating pattern. The applicants respectfully disagree.

"Periodic" means repeating in regular intervals. The Examiner seems to be stating that since gate electrodes 13a and 15a are commonly connected, that the claimed "minimum periodic unit of connections from said gate electrodes to said connection terminals within successive pixel rows" is 2, which is less than 16. However, the connection is not repeated every 2 gate electrodes -- i.e., is not periodic with a period of 2. That is, the common connection isn't to the gate electrodes 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 1, ..., etc. Rather, the common connections are repeated every N (and $2N$, $3N$, $4N$, ..., etc., but N is the minimum) gate electrodes. As can be appreciated from the foregoing, the claimed invention is supported by the specification.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-9 and 12-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by the current application's own admitted prior art. The applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this ground of rejection in view of the following.

As previously noted, each of independent claims 1-6 recite that N is also the minimum periodic unit of connections from said gate electrodes to said connection terminals within said successive pixel rows. This feature, in combination with the other recited features of claims 1-6, are not disclosed by Figure 7.

In the "Response to Arguments" section of Paper No. 04152005, page 7, the Examiner concluded that this feature was not recited explicitly, and interpreted the claims to read on apparatus with any minimum period unit of connections from gate electrodes to connection terminals within successive pixel rows. Since, however, the applicants have amended each of claims 1-6 to clearly recite that "N" is also the minimum period unit of connections from the gate electrodes to the connection terminals within the successive pixel rows, this patentable feature is now clearly recited.

Accordingly, each of these independent claims is not anticipated by Figure 7 for at least the foregoing reason. Since claims 12, 18, 24 and 25 depend from claim 1, since claims 13 and 19 depend from claim 2, since claims 14 and 20 depend from claim 3, since claims 7, 15 and 21 depend from claim 4, since claims 8, 16, and 22 depend from claim 5 and since claims 9, 17 and 23 depend

from claim 6, these claims are similarly not anticipated by Figure 7 for at least this reason.


In addition, each of independent claims 1-6 have been amended to recite that the gate electrodes having common connection terminals enable the gate electrodes to be controlled with different timing from the timing of non-common connection terminals of the gate electrode groups. Each of these independent claims is not anticipated by Figure 7 for at least this additional reason. Since claims 12, 18, 24 and 25 depend from claim 1, since claims 13 and 19 depend from claim 2, since claims 14 and 20 depend from claim 3, since claims 7, 15 and 21 depend from claim 4, since claims 8, 16, and 22 depend from claim 5 and since claims 9, 17 and 23 depend from claim 6, these claims are similarly not anticipated by Figure 7.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the applicants request that the Examiner pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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John C. Pokotylo, Attorney
Reg. No. 36,242
Tel.: (732) 542-9070



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING under 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on **October 19, 2005** with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

John C. Pokotylo
John C. Pokotylo

36,242
Reg. No.